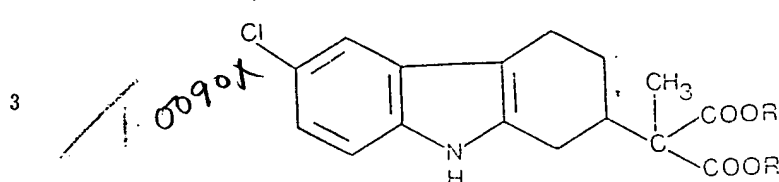
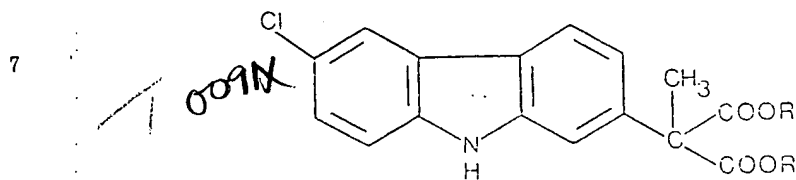


CLAIMS:

1. A process for preparing 6-chloro- α -methyl-carbazole-2-acetic acid, which
- comprises aromatizing a compound of the formula



- wherein R is lower alkyl,
- by treatment with chlorine, and thereafter hydrolyzing and decarboxylating the result-
- ing compound of the formula



- wherein R is as previously described.

1 2. A process in accordance with claim 1, wherein a compound of formula I
2 wherein R is ethyl is utilized.

1 3. A process in accordance with claim 1, wherein a compound of formula I
2 wherein R is methyl is utilized.

1 4. A process in accordance with claims 1, 2 or 3, wherein the aromatization is
2 carried out in an aprotic solvent.

1 5. A process in accordance with claims 1, 2 or 3, wherein the aprotic solvent is
2 toluene.